

Instruction by the Rector of the UPC on the Emergency Issued by Coronavirus COVID-19

The health emergency decreed in our country, binds public administrations to issue regulations that within their competence, contribute to the objective of preventing, reducing and minimizing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, identified by the WHO as “a global pandemic and with a high rate of spread around us”.

In this context, and in accordance with Health authorities and the Government of Catalonia, responsible for coordinating the Catalan University System, the UPC suspended from March 13, 2020 any face-to-face training activities, in accordance with the provisions of RESOLUTION SLT/719/2020 of March 12, adopting additional measures for the prevention and control of SARS-CoV-2 infection (DOGC of 12.03.2020, ANNEX A).

Thereafter, RESOLUTION SLT/720/2020 of March 13, was adopted with new additional measures for the prevention and control of SARS-CoV-2 infection, which provides among other measures, the limitation of the provision of public services to those strictly necessary to guarantee a proper operation of the basic or strategic services in the field of the Generalitat of Catalonia.

Other measures include the closure of certain establishments such as libraries, non-university educational centers, civic and non-health care centers and other public facilities, ski resorts, leisure centers, etc., except for shops and services of first products need.

In accordance with the measures taken for the Public Administrations of Catalonia, in accordance with the declaration of the State of Alarm decreed by the President of the Spanish Government, I order the following:

Service instructions due to the closure of the UPC facilities and buildings

1. The instructions on the suspension of classroom teaching activities, always seeking their provision by electronic means, are kept in force.
2. The buildings and facilities of the UPC will remain closed until further instruction. They will accessible exclusively through electronic means.
3. The UPC PDI and PAS will carry out their work tasks remotely, using the mechanisms and means available to the academic and service departments.
4. UPC Staff must keep in close contact to receive service instructions at any time during this emergency, in order to preserve the provision of essential or critical services.
5. Deadlines for the processing of diverse procedures at the UPC are suspended.
6. Management is empowered to establish the necessary measures to guarantee the operation of at least the following features:

- a) Economic management services: essential payments and payment management.
- b) ICT services: maintenance of CPD and critical services
- c) Guarantee the necessary maintenance of facilities, supplies and security and control of access to the UPC buildings
- d) Maintenance of critical laboratory facilities and other research facilities
- e) Indispensable provision of public records, guarantee of service of the electronic headquarters and electronic signature mechanisms and processes.

These instructions are valid immediately and until their modification or suspension expressly.

I want to thank specifically the understanding of the members of the community and I would like to express my absolute conviction that this temporary crisis will strengthen us as an Institution for possible complicated future situations.

Barcelona, March 14, 2020

The Rector

Francesc Torres